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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION III
841 Chestnut Building
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107-4431

NOV 16 1994

SUBJECT: Approval of a Funding Request for a Removal Action
Virginia Scrap Iron & Metal Site
City of Roanoke, Virginia

FROM: Peter H. Kostmayer
Regional Administrator (3RA00)

TO: Elliott P. Laws, Assistant Administrator
Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response (5101)

THRU: Henry L. Longest, Director
Office of Emergency and Remedial Response (5201)

ATTN: Deborah Y. Dietrich, Director
Emergency Response Division (5202-G)

I. ISSUE

The attached CERCLA Funding Request pertains to the Virginia Scrap Iron & Metal Site located in the City of Roanoke, Virginia. A Removal Assessment performed in accordance with the National Contingency Plan (NCP) by my staff has identified a threat to human health and welfare, and to the environment due to the presence of lead-contaminated soils. Analytical data revealed lead levels significantly above Removal Action levels. The Site is located adjacent to the Roanoke River and is currently an active facility that provides employment for a full-time staff.

Because conditions at the Virginia Scrap Iron & Metal Site meet removal criteria set forth in the NCP, Section 300.415, and pursuant to Delegation of Authority 14-1-A giving the Regional Administrator authority to approve CERCLA Removal Actions with a total cost of less than \$2 million and completion within 12 months, Region III has approved the use of CERCLA funds in the amount of \$878,720, of which approximately \$600,000 are Regional Allowance Costs, to mitigate the threat to public health and the environment.

Attachment: Initial Funding Request

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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION III
841 Chestnut Building
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107-4431

NOV 16 1994

SUBJECT: Request for Funds for a Removal Action
Virginia Scrap Iron & Metal Site
City of Roanoke, Virginia

FROM: Richard M. Fetzner, On-Scene Coordinator
Western Response Section (3HW32)

TO: Peter H. Kostmayer
Regional Administrator (3RA00)

THRU: *for* ~~Abraham Perdas~~, Associate Division Director
for Superfund Programs (3HW02)

Callahan

I. ISSUE

A Removal Assessment performed in accordance with the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP), 40 CFR Part 300, by the On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) has determined that the Site poses an imminent threat to human health and welfare, and to the environment due to the presence of uncontrolled hazardous substances. The OSC has determined that the Site meets the criteria for initiating a Removal Action under Section 300.415 of the NCP. Funds are required to begin an immediate Removal Action pursuant to Section 104 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) as amended, 42 USC 9604. The actions necessary to abate the threats at this Site are anticipated to require less than 12 months and \$2 million for completion. The OSC considers the action required at this Site to be a time-critical Removal Action.

II. BACKGROUND

A. Site Description

The Virginia Scrap Iron & Metal Site, is situated in the western portion of the City of Roanoke, Virginia, off Roanoke Avenue. It is bordered on the west, north and east sides by a bend in the Roanoke River, and on the south by the Norfolk and Southern Railroad. The facility is owned and operated by Mr. Sam Golden, a scrap metal dealer. Extensive deposition of scrap metal in the form of drums, tanks, railroad cars, and other debris are present throughout the property.

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B. Site Background

The Virginia Scrap Iron & Metal Site is an active facility that receives scrap metal which is then separated and stored onsite for future sale to recycling companies and other prospective buyers. The duration of this facility's operation is unknown.

The assistance of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at this Site was requested by the City of Roanoke and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as part of their ongoing Roanoke River Flood Reduction Project designed to mitigate the threat posed by potential floods along the river. Under the project, the City of Roanoke will be required to obtain certain properties along the river for the construction/installation of flood control measures. The Removal Assessment conducted at the Virginia Scrap Iron & Metal Site was part of a larger assessment by EPA which involved 17 other properties along the Roanoke River.

C. Quantities and Types of Substance Present

Analytical data from the sampling assessment revealed elevated levels of lead (2,840 ppm) in onsite soils, especially those in the eastern portion of the property, which is estimated to be about one acre. Further sampling, proposed as part of this funding request, is necessary to quantify the amount of contaminated soils present onsite. Lead is defined as a hazardous substance pursuant to CERCLA Section 104(14) and is listed in 40 CFR Part 302.4 as a hazardous substance.

D. National Priorities List Status

The Virginia Scrap Iron & Metal Site has not yet been evaluated for placement on the National Priority List (NPL). All information gathered under this assessment has been supplied to the Site Assessment Section of EPA Region III for consideration/ placement on the NPL.

E. State and Local Authorities' Roles

EPA assistance was requested by both the City of Roanoke and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Neither the City of Roanoke, nor the Commonwealth of Virginia has the resources to conduct an adequate Removal Action at this Site at this time.

III. THREATS TO PUBLIC HEALTH OR WELFARE OR THE ENVIRONMENT

Section 300.415 of the NCP lists the factors to be considered in determining the appropriateness of a Removal Action. Paragraphs (b)(2)(i), (ii), (iv), (v), and (vii)

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directly apply as follows to the conditions at the Virginia Scrap Iron & Metal Site:

300.415 (b) (2) (i)

"Actual or potential exposure to nearby human populations, animals or the food chain from hazardous substances or pollutants or contaminants"

The presence of elevated levels of lead currently onsite create the potential for direct contact with any person or animal onsite. The facility is currently active, thus posing a threat to any employees and/or customers who may come into contact with the contaminated soils. In addition, runoff from the Site enters directly into the Roanoke River creating a threat to aquatic organisms. In addition, residents using the river for recreational purposes such as boating and fishing could be exposed since they are not restricted from access to the river.

300.415 (b) (2) (ii)

"Actual or potential contamination of drinking water supplies or sensitive ecosystems"

Since the Site is adjacent to the Roanoke River, heavy rains or flooding conditions could cause contaminants to migrate from the Site, thus impacting the river sediments and its aquatic organisms.

300.415 (b) (2) (iv)

"High levels of hazardous substances or pollutants or contaminants in soils largely at or near the surface, that may migrate"

The Removal Assessment revealed elevated concentrations of lead in the surface soils collected from the eastern portion of the property. Since site drainage apparently flows from west to east, there is a potential for contaminant migration into the Roanoke River.

300.415 (b) (2) (v)

"Weather conditions that may cause hazardous substances or pollutants or contaminants to migrate or be released"

Since the Site is situated adjacent to the Roanoke River, the potential for flooding due to heavy rainfall exists. Floods that have occurred in the past have left much of

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the City of Roanoke under several feet of water. Such conditions could probably result in offsite migration of contaminants.

300.415 (b)(2)(vii)

"The availability of other appropriate Federal or State response mechanisms to respond to the release"

EPA assistance at this Site was requested because the City of Roanoke and the Army Corps of Engineers had exhausted their resources and could not afford continued investigation at this time at the sites associated with the Flood Reduction Project including Virginia Scrap Iron & Metal. In addition, State or City funding is unavailable at this time to conduct adequate removal activity.

IV. ENDANGERMENT DETERMINATION

The actual or threatened release of hazardous substances from this Site, if not addressed by implementing the response action selected in this Action Memorandum, may present an imminent and substantial endangerment to public health, welfare, and to the environment.

V. PROPOSED ACTIONS AND COSTS

A. Proposed Actions

The actions proposed for the Virginia Scrap Iron & Metal Site are intended to eliminate the imminent threat posed by the hazardous substances remaining onsite. The proposed actions are as follows:

1. Conduct further extent of contamination survey to fully delineate areas of lead on the Site. The two main areas of concern onsite are defined as follows:
 - a. Upland Contaminated Areas - Areas of lead contamination in and around Site processing and storage areas.
 - b. Riverbank Contaminated Areas - Areas of lead contamination in proximity to the riverbank.
2. For Upland Contaminated Areas:
 - a. Determine lead-contaminated areas that should be addressed by characterizing the nature, concentration, areal extent, and depth of lead, addressing potential human exposures.

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- b. Excavate and dispose offsite or implement another treatment and disposal technology or other appropriate response alternative to remove soils contaminated with lead in excess of 1000 ppm in the above extent of contamination study. Confirmatory sampling will be conducted to determine the effectiveness of the Removal Action. Cover Upland Contaminated Areas identified in (a), above to prevent lead from public exposures or migration.

3. For Riverbank Contaminated Areas:

- a. Determine lead contaminated areas that should be addressed by characterizing the nature, concentration, areal extent, and depth of lead, addressing both potential human exposures and impact upon the river.
- b. Excavate and dispose offsite or implement another treatment and disposal technology or other appropriate response alternative to remove soils that are either:
 - (1) contaminated with lead in excess of 1,000 ppm, or
 - (2) identified at concentrations which are producing an adverse impact to the aquatic environment and water quality of the Roanoke River, as defined in the Clean Water Act and other related Federal and State laws and regulations.

Add replacement soil to those areas excavated to restore the area.

B. Estimated Costs

Proposed Ceiling

Extramural Costs

Regional Allowance Costs

ERCS	\$510,000
15% Contingency	90,000

Other Costs Not Funded from
the Regional Allowance

TAT	120,800
Subtotal	\$720,800

15% Contingency	108,120
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Total Extramural	\$828,920
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Proposed CeilingIntramural Costs

Direct Costs	\$ 18,000
Indirect Costs	31,800

Total Extramural	\$ 49,800
ESTIMATED TOTAL PROJECT CEILING	\$878,720

C. Contribution to Remedial Performance

Presently, the Virginia Scrap Iron & Metal Site is not an NPL Site, so there are no plans for long-term Remedial Action at this time. All information gathered during the Removal Assessment has been sent to the EPA Site Assessment Section for further evaluation. In addition, the proposed Removal Action is consistent with all accepted removal practices and is expected to abate the threats which meet the NCP removal criteria. Should the Site be added to the NPL, the proposed activities are not anticipated to be inconsistent with future remedial actions.

D. Compliance with ARARs

The OSC requested State ARARs in a letter to VADEQ on September 6, 1994. The State responded on October 13, 1994 listing requirements concerning Virginia's solid waste management, hazardous waste management, transportation of hazardous waste, erosion and sedimentation control, air pollution, water quality control, and stormwater management. The proposed Removal Action set forth in the Memorandum will comply with all applicable, relevant, and appropriate environmental and health requirements, to the extent practicable, considering the exigencies of the situation.

VI. EXPECTED CHANGE IN THE SITUATION SHOULD NO ACTION BE TAKEN OR ACTION DELAYED

If no action is taken or action is delayed, the threat of the release of hazardous substances may result in the migration of the contaminants into the Roanoke River and onto other properties. The Site is currently an actively operating facility with open access from the river, thus allowing people to come into direct contact with contaminants.

VII. OUTSTANDING POLICY ISSUES

The OSC recognized that the Revised Interim Soil Lead Guidance for OSWER Directive #9355.4-12 "CERCLA Sites and RCRA Corrective Action Facilities" (July 14, 1994) represents the

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latest EPA guidance concerning lead cleanup and remediation actions under CERCLA and RCRA. While it is the OSC's desire to apply this directive to the proposed actions at this Site, it is not presently clear to the OSC how to do so for Removal Actions. Consequently, the proposed actions and the cleanup goals for lead have been developed for the specific circumstances currently known at this Site based upon the previously issued EPA guidance, "OSWER Directive #9355.4-02, September 1989, which recommended soil lead cleanup levels of 500 ppm to 1,000 ppm for protection of human health at residential CERCLA Sites. Should questions concerning OSWER Directive 9355.4-12 be resolved prior to the conduct of these actions, the OSC will apply it as appropriate.

VIII. ENFORCEMENT

The EPA Region III Removal Enforcement Section has been provided with all background information available to pursue any and all Enforcement Actions pertaining to the Virginia Scrap Iron & Metal Site. The current owner of the property has been notified by the Removal Enforcement Section of Potential Responsible Party status. (See attached Confidential Enforcement Addendum.)

IX. RECOMMENDATION

Because conditions at the Virginia Scrap Iron & Metal Site meet the NCP Section 300.415 criteria for a removal, I recommend your approval of this request for \$878,720, of which approximately \$600,000 are Regional Allowance Costs. You may indicate your approval or disapproval by signing below. I recommend your approval to initiate response actions due to the nature of the threat described herein.

APPROVED: _____

DATE: Nov. 15, 1994

DISAPPROVED: _____

DATE: _____

Attachment: Confidential Enforcement Addendum

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